

# Twin Lakes Trail #573



## Recreation Opportunity Guide

Distance..... 4.5 miles (one way)  
Elevation..... 3920-4560 feet  
Snow Free ..... June to October



**Trail Highlights:** This heavily used trail is one of the most popular in the Bull of the Woods Wilderness Area. This trail is also an important connector with other major trails within the Bull of the Woods Wilderness Area. The trail passes through old growth alpine forest. During 2012 the majority of the drainage burned during the Mother Load Fire.

**Trail Description:** This trail connects Bagby Hot Springs Trail #544 and Mother Lode Trail #558. Beginning from Bagby Trail #544 (4,560'), the trail follows the south side of the ridge heading east. After 1.5 miles the trail reaches the west shore of Upper Twin Lake (3,920'). There are several well established campsites on the northwest shore of the lake. The trail leaves Upper Twin Lake and after 0.5 mile the trail reaches the junction with a side trail leading to Lower Twin Lake (0.3 mile). There are a few campsites around the smaller Lower Twin Lake. From the junction, the trail climbs gently for 1.7 miles to the end of the ridge (4,400'). The trail turns north and heads downhill 0.8 mile to the trail's end at the junction with Mother Lode Trail #558. To make a 12.3 mile loop, turn right (east) onto #558 and follow it for 2.2 miles to the junction with Elk Lake Creek Trail #559. Turn right (south) onto #559 and follow it for 3.9 miles back to Elk Lake. Follow Forest Road 4697 west to the southerly Bagby Trail #544 trailhead.

### Regulations & Leave No Trace Information:

- Group size is limited to 12. Stock are counted in the group size. For example, 3 people riding their own horse plus a spare horse in the group for packing would make a group of 7.

#### Leave No Trace

- Plan Ahead and Prepare: Prepare for extreme weather, hazards and emergencies.
- Travel and Camp on Durable Surfaces: Use established trails and campsites.
- Dispose of Waste Properly: Pack out all trash, leftover food and litter.
- Leave What You Find: Avoid introducing or transporting non-native species.
- Minimize Campfire Impacts: Use established fire rings & keep fires small.
- Respect Wildlife: Control pets at all times.
- Be Considerate of Other Visitors: Avoid loud voices and noises.

For information on **Leave No Trace**, go to [www.LNT.org](http://www.LNT.org) or call 1-800-332-4100

**For current trail conditions and more recreation information go to:**

<http://www.fs.usda.gov/mthood>

Map and driving directions on next page

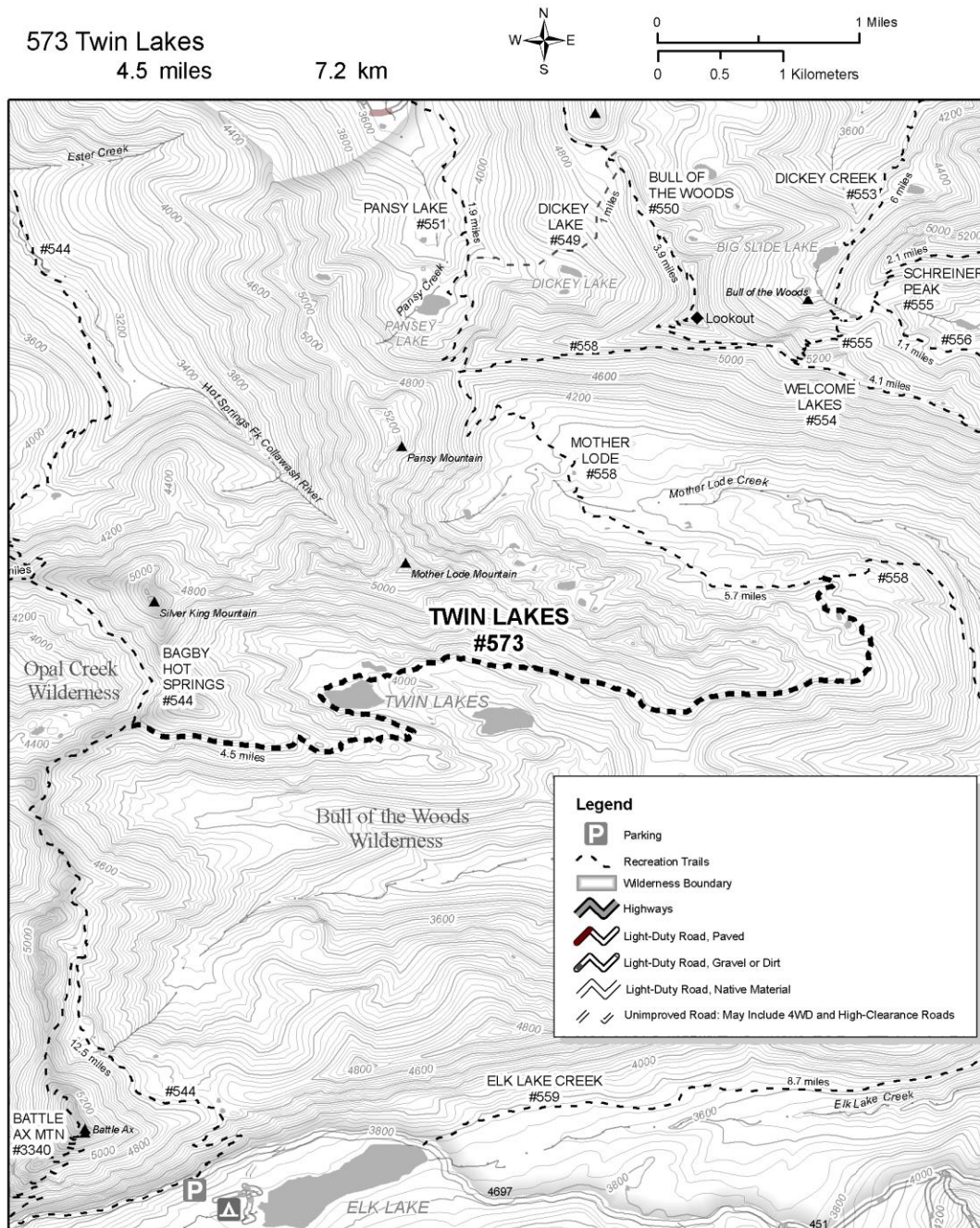
Mt. Hood National Forest  
16400 Champion Way  
Sandy, OR 97055  
503-668-1700

Clackamas River Ranger District  
595 NW Industrial Way  
Estacada, Oregon 97023  
503-630-6861



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**Directions to Trailhead:** From Clackamas Rivr Ranger District, 595 NW Industrial Way, Estacada Or follow Hwy 224 for 26 ¼ miles when Hwy 224 turns into Forest Road 46. Follow Forest Road 46 for 40.3 miles to Forest Road 4696. Once you have passed Breitenbush Hot Springs, and both Cleator Bend and Humbug Campgrounds, slow down and lookout for the junction with Forest Road 4696 where you will be turning right (North). Travel another ¾ miles to Forest Road 4697 an extremely rough dirt road and continue for another 7 miles to the trailhead located at the far end of Elk Lake, to the trailhead for Bagby #544 north for 3.3 miles to the beginning of this trail for Twin Lakes(#573).



**Recommended maps:** Clackamas Ranger District



